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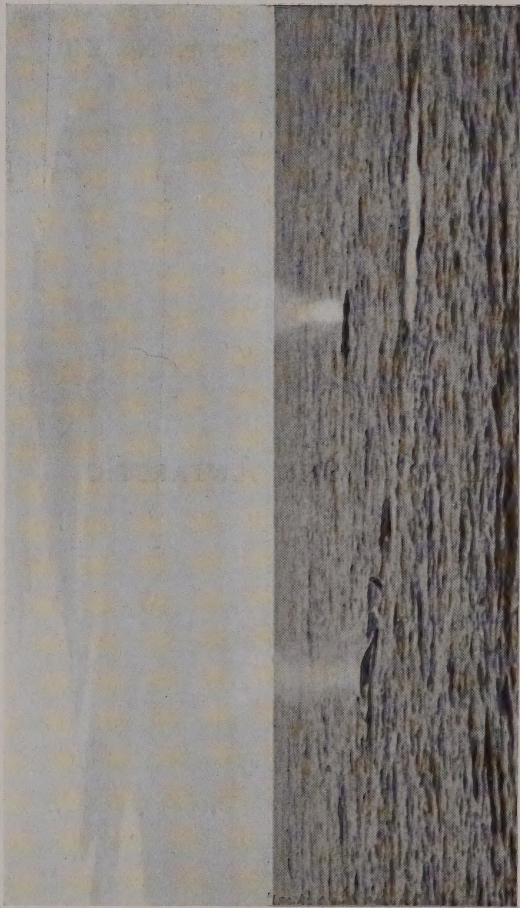
LIFE IN THE ANTARCTIC

CARSON & NICOL, PRINTERS, GLASGOW.

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FINNER WHALES BLOWING
(*Balaenoptera? australis*)

W. S. Bruce, Photo.



LIFE IN THE ANTARCTIC

*Sixty photographs by Members of the Scottish National
Antarctic Expedition*

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First Edition, January, 1907.

Reprinted, February, 1907.

THE publishers beg to draw particular note to the fact that the illustrations in this little book are all reproductions of genuine photographs from life, taken by the Leader and Staff of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition, during the voyage of the "Scotia," 1902-1904. Practically all of them are unique, many of the mammals and birds never having been previously photographed. They were taken under conditions of climate which make photography extremely difficult and often impossible. They are not touched up in any way by the engravers, and may be implicitly relied upon as correct representations of the actual environments of Antarctic mammals and birds. Enquiries as to larger copies of these photographs, etc., should be addressed to the Director, Scottish Oceanographical Laboratory, Surgeons' Hall, Edinburgh.



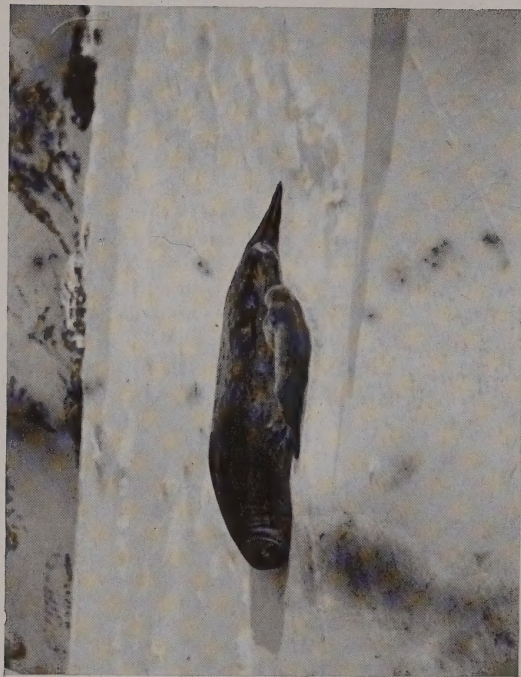
HUMBACK WHALE
(*Megaptera? sp.*)

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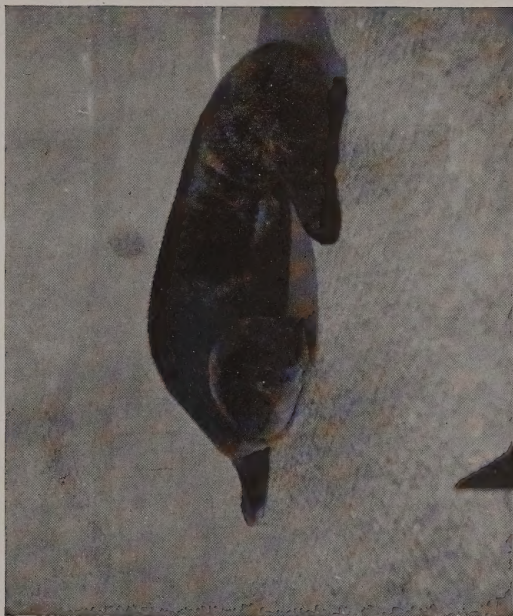


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WEDDELL SEALS ASLEEP ON THE BEACH
(*Leptonychotes weddelli*)

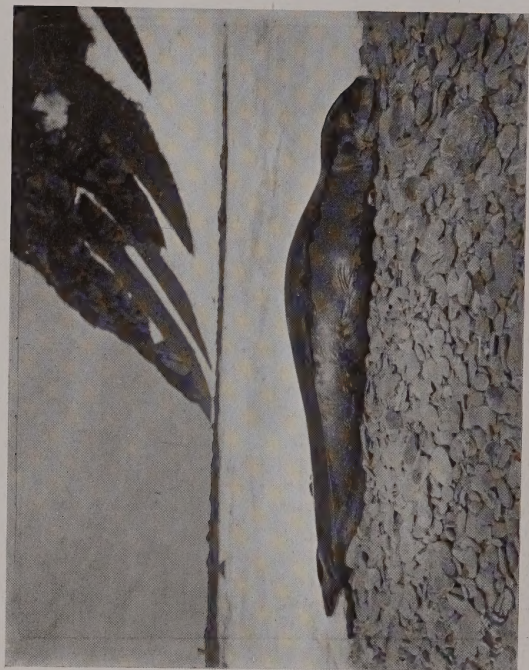


MOTHER AND YOUNG OF WEDDELL SEAL. R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.
ASLEEP IN THE ICE-FLOE



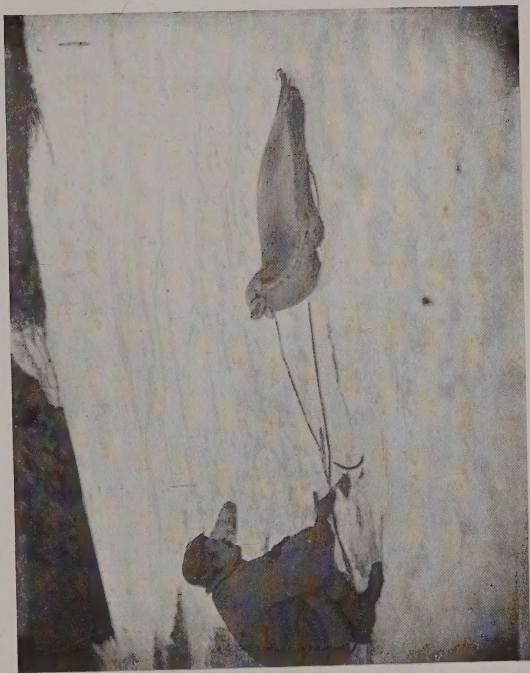
BABY WEDDELL SEAL

R. N. Rudnose Brown, Photo.



SEA LEOPARD
(*Stenorhynchus leptonyx*)

W. S. Bruce, Photo.



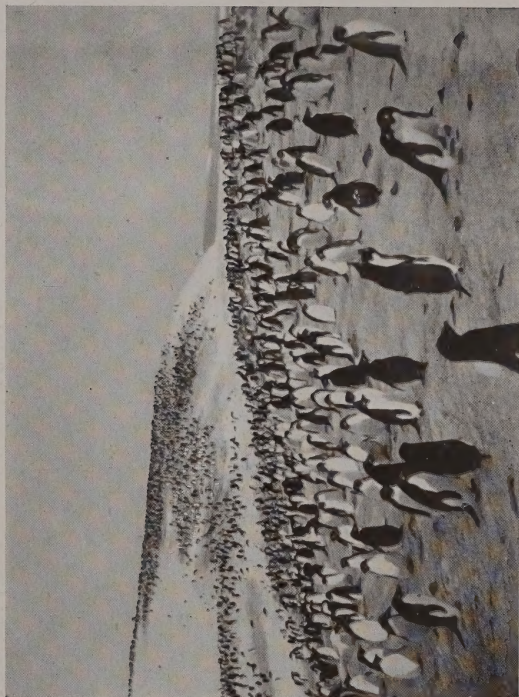
WHITE ANTARCTIC SEAL
(*Lobodon carcinophaga*)

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BLACK-THROATED PENGUIN ROOKERY
(*Pygoscelis adeliae*)

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



ROOKERY AT SOUTH ORKNEYS
BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS PAIRING

R. N. Rudnose Brown, Photo.



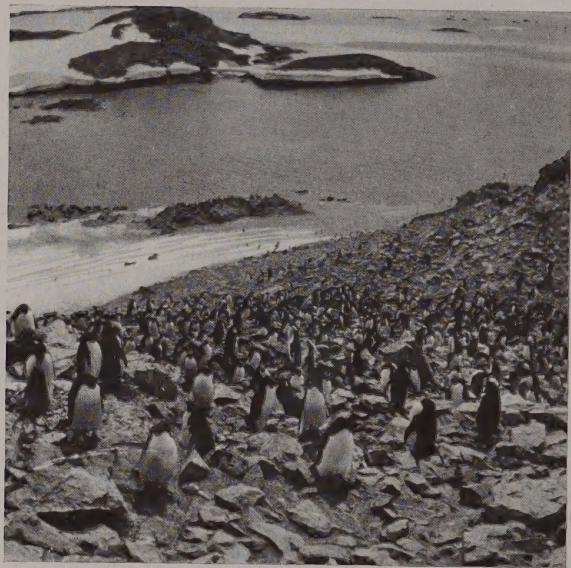
COLLECTING PENGUINS' EGGS AT SCOTIA BAY.
SOUTH ORKNEYS

Señor L. H. Valette, Photo.



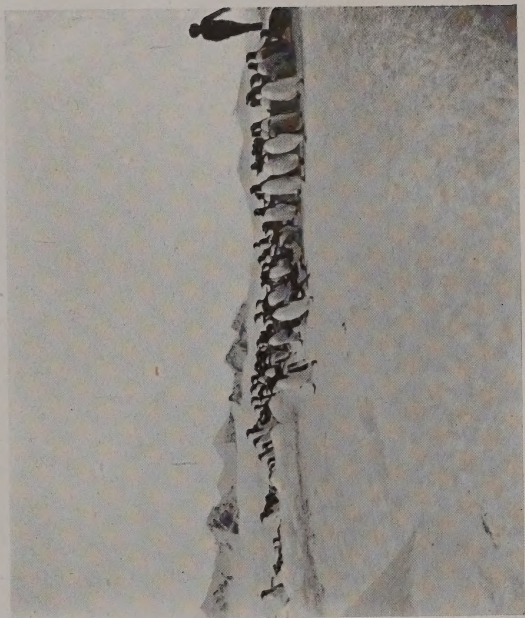
BLACK-THROATED PENGUIN ROOKERY.
THE BIRDS PAIRING

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



BLACK-THROATED PENGUIN
ROOKERY

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



A PENGUIN DRIVE
(*Pygoscelis papua*)

W. S. Bruce, Photo.



"RUSS" AND PENGUINS

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



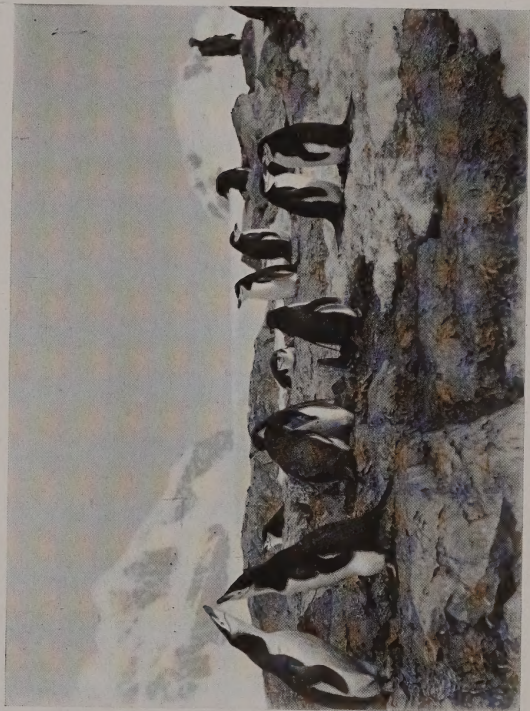
PENGUIN TAKING THE WATER

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



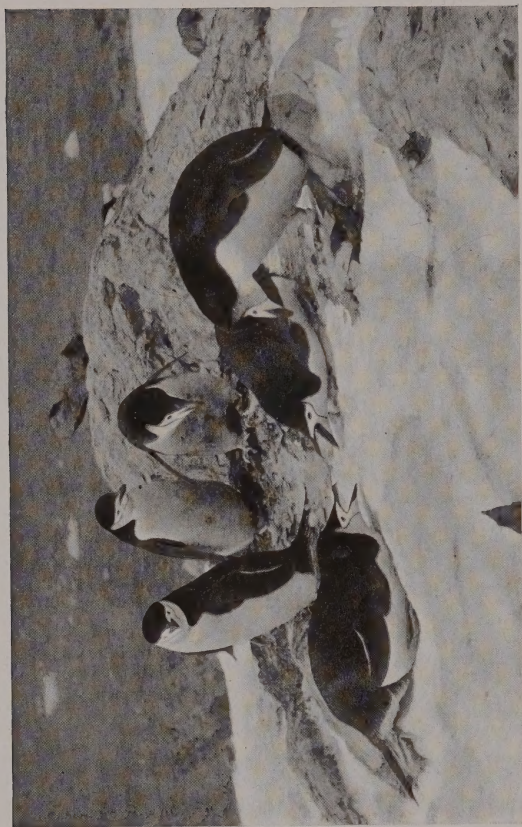
AN EMPEROR PENGUIN IN CAPTIVITY
(*Aptenodytes forsteri*)

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



RINGED PENGUINS COURTING
(*Pygoscelis antarctica*)

W. S. Bruce, Photo.



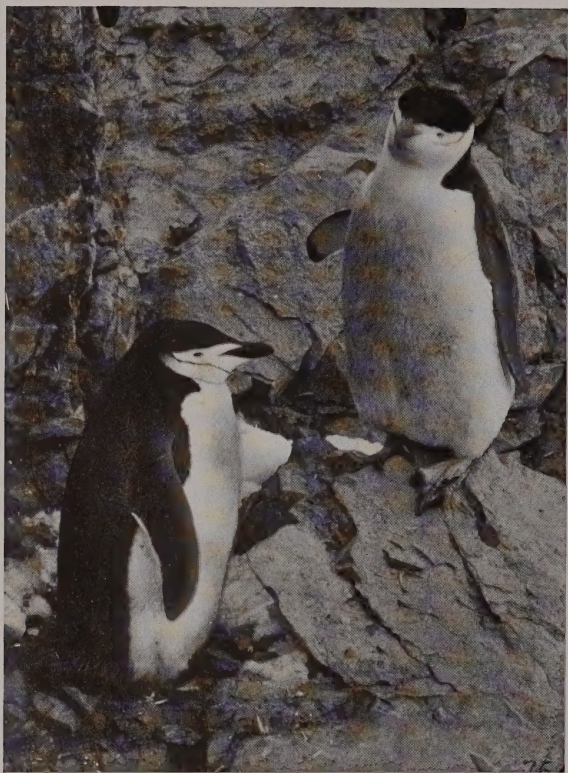
RINGED PENGUINS FIGHTING

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



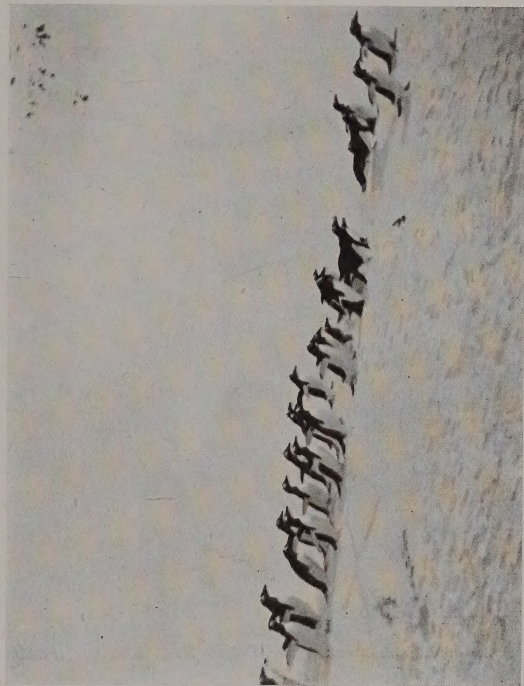
RINGED PENGUIN GUARDING NEST

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



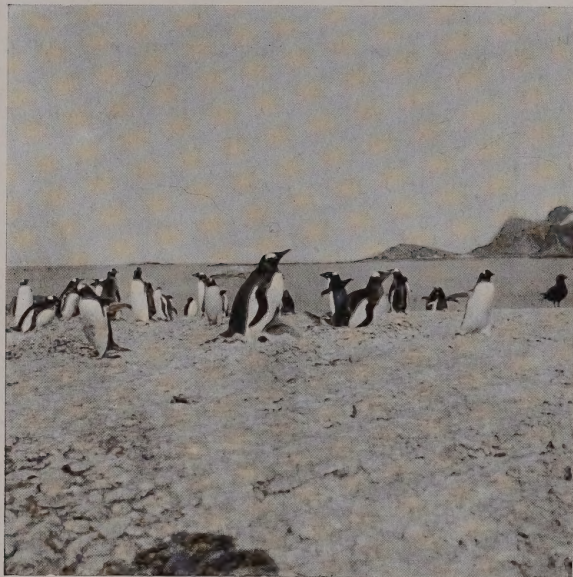
RINGED PENGUINS MATED

Señor L. H. Valette, Photo.



GENTOO PENGUINS IN A HURRY
(*Pygoscelis papua*)

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



GENTOO PENGUINS RESTING

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



GENTOO PENGUIN CARRYING STONES
FOR ITS NEST

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



GENTOO PENGUINS AND YOUNG

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



GENTOO PENGUIN AND YOUNG

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo



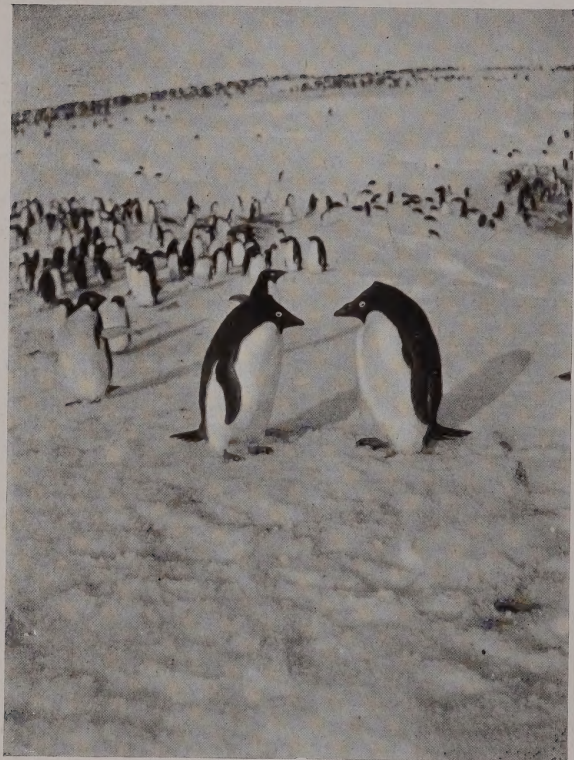
BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS
THE MALE "SHOWING OFF"
(*Pygoscelis adeliae*)

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



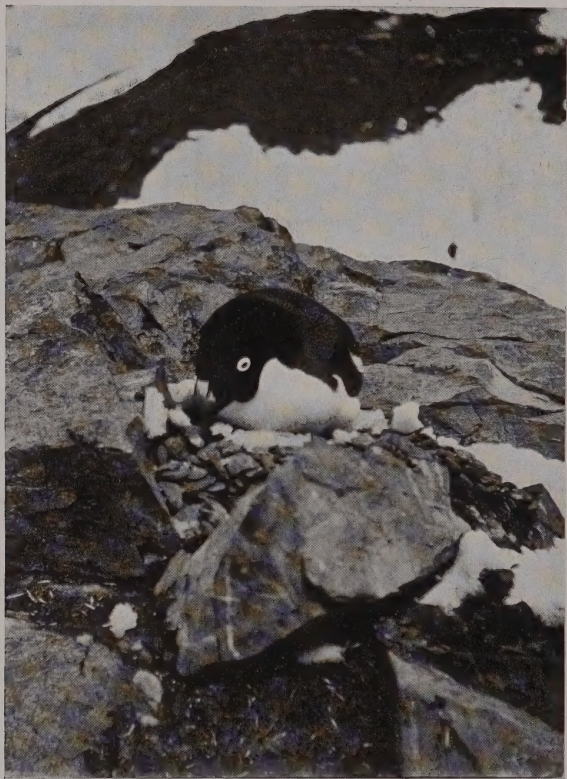
BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS
COURTING

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS
THE NEST COMPLETE

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



BLACK-THROATED PENGUIN
ON EGG
"SITTING TIGHT"

R. N. Rudmose Brown, Photo.



BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS
AND YOUNG

R. C. Mossman, Photo.

"COME AND BE FED. DEAD"



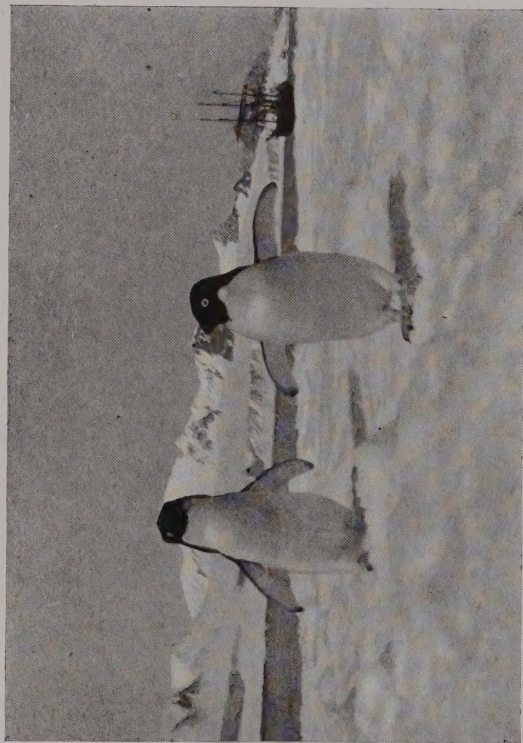
BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS
"BEING FED"

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS
"GRACE AFTER MEAT"

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



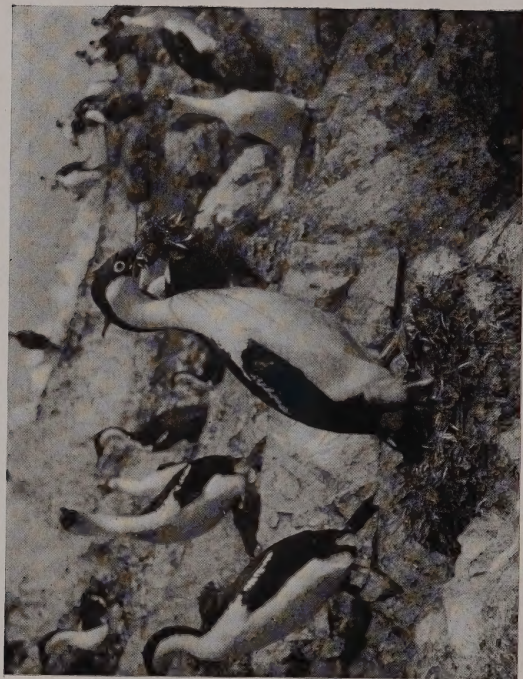
SPRING: BLACK-THROATED PENGUINS RETURNING

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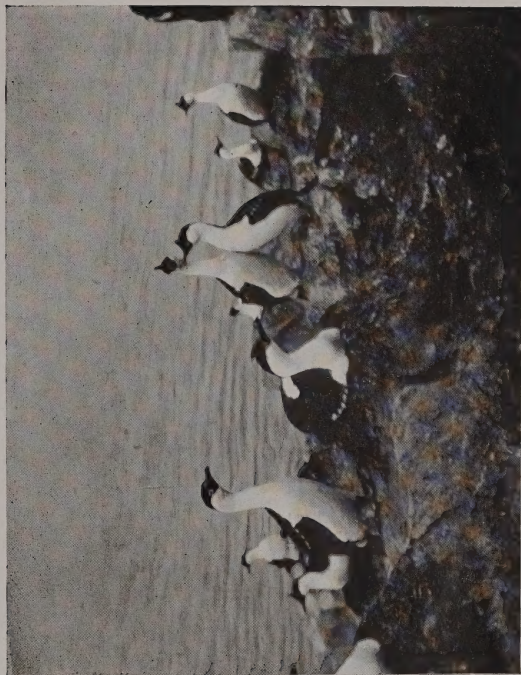
Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.

SHAGS
(*Phalacrocorax atriceps*)



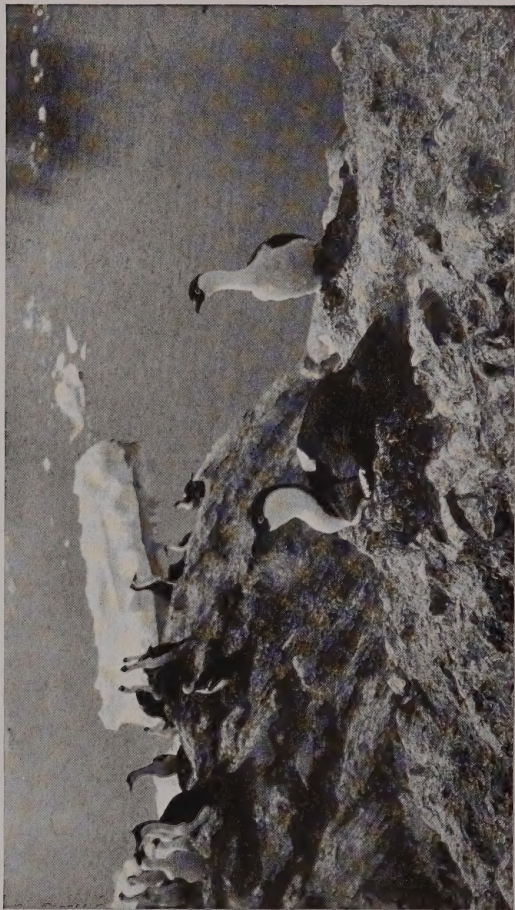
SHAG WITH SEA-WEED FOR
NEST-BUILDING

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



SHAGS NESTING

D. W. Wilton, Photo.



SHAGS ON NESTS

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.

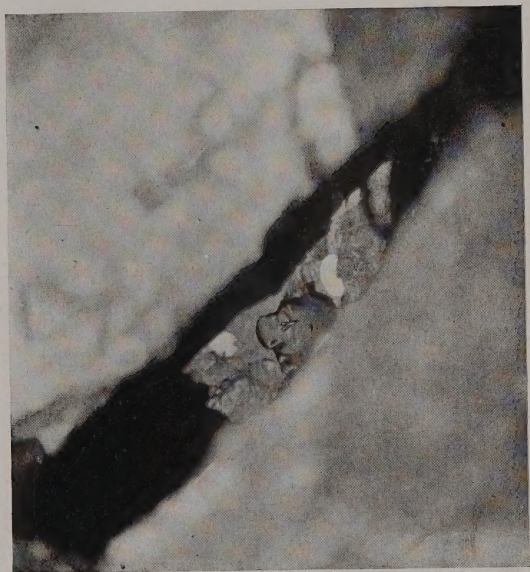


SHAG ATTACKING AN INTRUDER

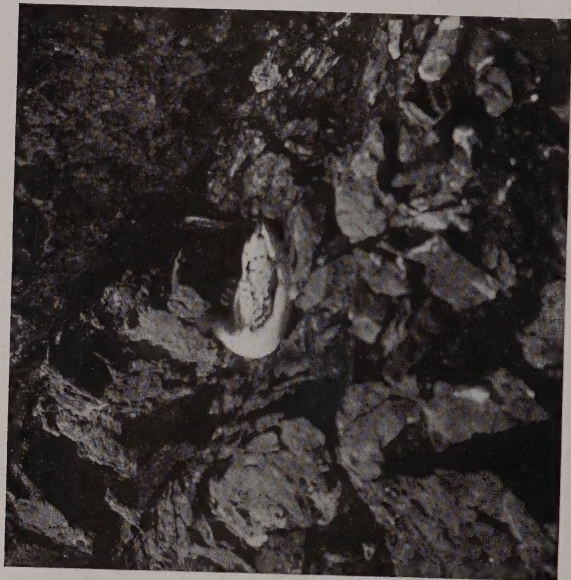
Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



SHEATHBILLS AT ENTRANCE TO NEST
(*Chionis alba*)
W. S. Bruce, Photo.



WILSON'S STORMY PETREL Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.
ON NEST
(*Oceanites oceanicus*)



CAPE PIGEON ON NEST
(*Daption capensis*)

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



CAPE PIGEON ON NEST

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



CAPE PIGEON ON NEST

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



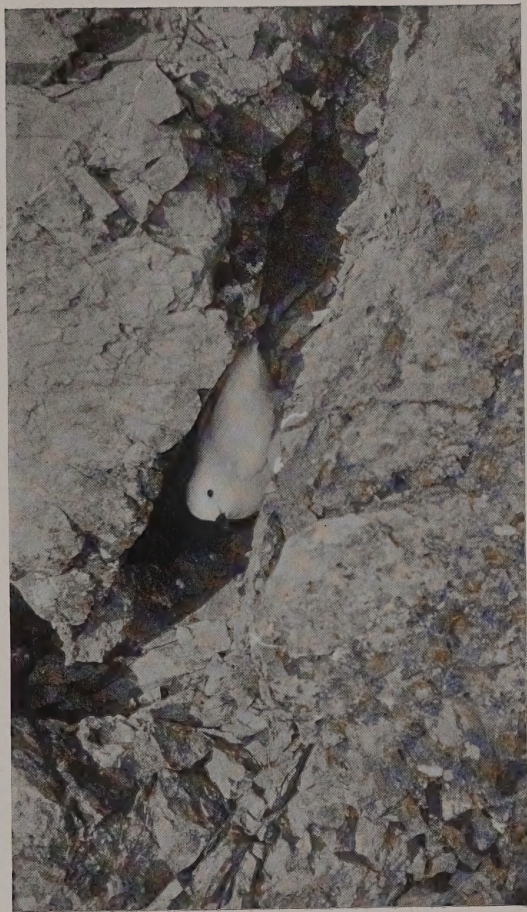
CAPE PIGEON AND EGG

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



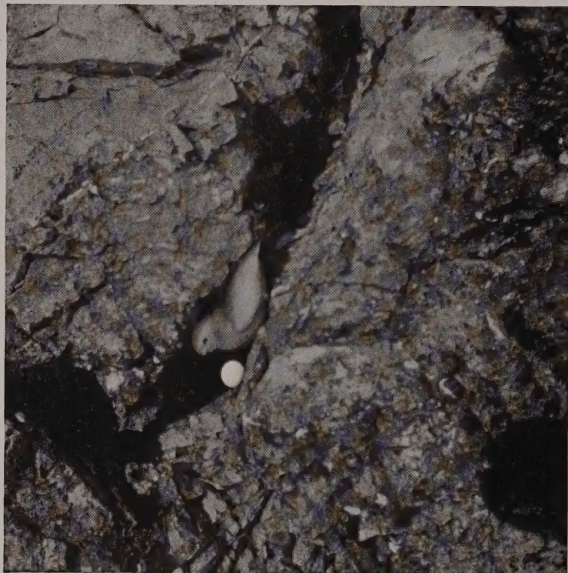
CAPE PIGEON ABOUT TO TAKE FLIGHT

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



SNOW PETREL ON NEST
(*Pagodroma nivea*)

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



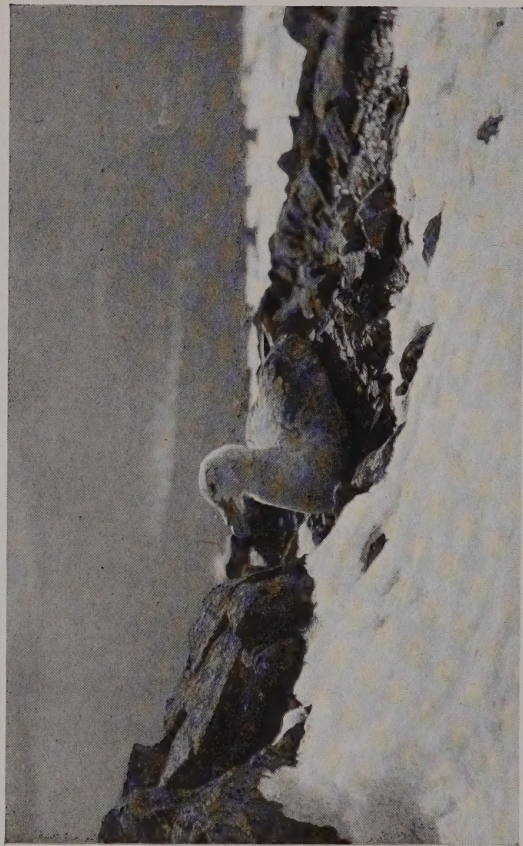
SNOW PETREL AND EGG

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



GIANT PETREL ON NEST
(*Ossifraga gigantea*)

D. W. Wilton, Photo.



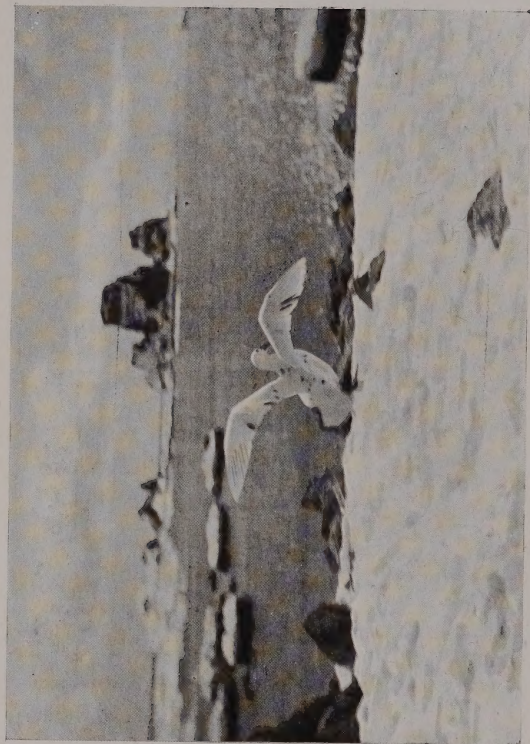
GIANT PETREL ON NEST

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



CAPTURE OF A GIANT PETREL

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



GIANT PETREL (WHITE VARIETY)
ABOUT TO TAKE FLIGHT

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



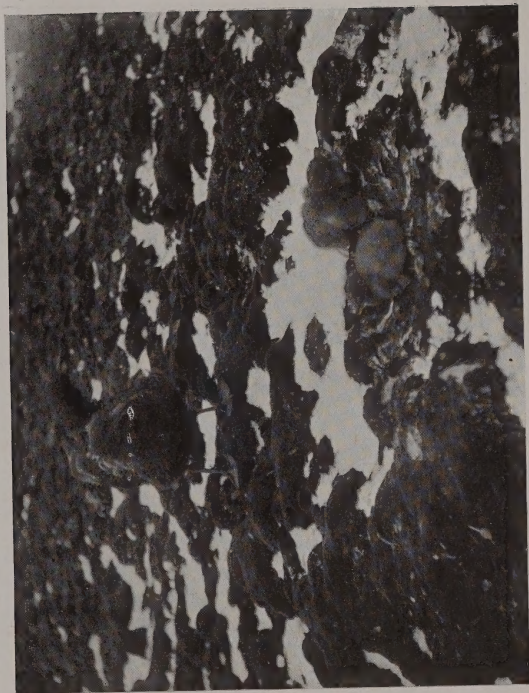
NEST AND EGGS OF SOUTHERN BLACK-BACKED
OR DOMINICAN GULL
(*Larus dominicanus*)

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



ANTARCTIC SKUA ON NEST
(*Megalestris antarctica*)

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



ANTARCTIC SKUA AND YOUNG IN NEST

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.

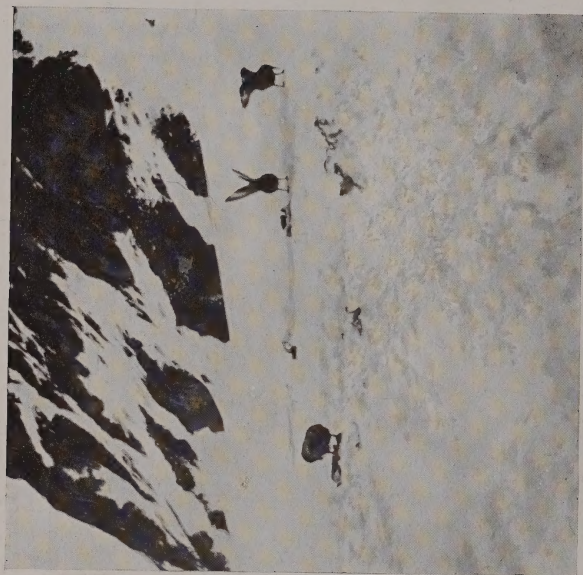


MALE SKUAS FIGHTING

Dr. J. H. Harvey Pirie, Photo.



ANTARCTIC SKUAS QUARRELLING OVER
A PENGUIN'S CARCASE
R. C. Mossman, Photo.



ANTARCTIC SKUAS

R. C. Mossman, Photo.



R. C. Mossman, Photo.

ANTARCTIC SKUAS



SKUAS AND GIANT PETREL

R. C. Mossman, Photo.

Notes on some Antarctic Mammals and Birds.

BY

W. S. BRUCE, F.R.S.E.

The Antarctic whales, despite the fact that they are very numerous and have been often seen, are practically unknown. Some authorities attempt to give them specific names, but in view of our almost complete ignorance regarding them it is most inadvisable to do so, and only the generic name can be given with any degree of certitude. Two species are illustrated, the Southern Finner Whale (*Balaenoptera australis*) and the Humpback (*Megaptera sp.*).

The Weddell Seal (*Leptonychotes weddelli*) is one of the common species of Antarctic seals, though it is not many years since it was looked upon as one of the rarest of known mammals. It is very plentiful near land, but is never found in large numbers far from the shore. It is a somewhat lethargic animal, and is never fierce except during the breeding season. It returns to land to breed in the end of August, and soon after that date the young are born. By the end of October the young have all left their mothers to seek for themselves. An adult Weddell Seal measures up to 9 feet in length and weighs over 800 lbs.

The Sea Leopard (*Stenorhynchus leptonyx*) is the largest and fiercest of Antarctic seals, being the only one that ever threatens man without provocation. It feeds largely on penguins, in addition to various invertebrates. Nothing is definitely known regarding its breeding habits and haunts; but the *Scotia* naturalists saw one young sea leopard at the South Orkneys in November, showing that the breeding places could not be far distant. The sea leopard may attain a length of 13 feet and may weigh up to 1,000 lbs.

The White Antarctic Seal (*Lobodon carcinophaga*) is often known as the "Crab-eater," a somewhat erroneous name, due perhaps to its feeding largely on a species of shrimp (*Euphausia*). As to the breeding habits of this animal, we know practically nothing. The mottled grey coat of the young becomes a creamy white one with a darker stripe down the back as the seal becomes adult. The white seal attains over 8 feet in length and about 500 lbs. in weight.

The Black-throated or Adelie Penguin (*Pygoscelis adeliae*) is the commonest of Antarctic penguins, and has been obtained in practically all parts of the Antarctic regions visited. They are

found in extraordinary numbers at the South Orkneys, a large rookery alone containing over a million of birds. The birds return to land to nest in October, and early in November the eggs are laid, generally two in number, but occasionally three. The nests are composed of stones, like those of other penguins. The bird averages from 8 to 11 lbs. in weight, depending on the season, and has a height of about 18 inches.

The Emperor Penguin (*Aptenodytes forsteri*) is essentially the penguin of the far South, and becomes rarer towards the outskirts of the Antarctic regions. It is the only bird known that breeds in midwinter, building no nest, but carrying its solitary egg between its legs on its upturned feet. The Emperor Penguin weighs 70 to 80 lbs., and stands about 3 feet in height.

The Ringed Penguin (*Pygoscelis antarctica*) is an uncommon bird in collections, but the *Scotia* naturalists have shown that the species is extremely abundant in the South Orkneys. There are many "rookeries" in these islands, some of which are tenanted by at least 50,000 birds. This is the boldest of the small penguins, attacking fiercely anyone who enters the rookery. The nests are built of a few small stones laid loosely on the ground, and there is usually a clutch of two white eggs, which are hatched in January. The birds weigh 9 lbs., and stand about 18 inches in height.

The Gentoo Penguin (*Pygoscelis papua*) does not penetrate far into the Antarctic area, and is most abundant in Subantarctic regions. At the South Orkneys and Graham Land it is found in smaller numbers than the Adelie and Ringed Penguins. It is the most timid of the penguins, and often makes no attempt even to defend its eggs. It begins to nest in October, and the eggs are laid in November. The nest is built of stones and a few feathers, and is generally a somewhat larger structure than that of the allied species. The Gentoo Penguin scales about 11 lbs., and its height is about 22 inches.

The Blue-eyed Shag (*Phalacrocorax atriceps*) may be seen all the year round at the South Orkneys, and becomes common in the spring. It is a relatively shy bird and only allows one to approach when it is sitting on its eggs. The nests are extremely well built structures of moss, lichens, seaweed and feathers. The eggs, two in number as a rule, are laid in November. The average weight of the bird is 6½ lbs.

The Southern Black-Backed or Dominican Gull (*Larus dominicanus*) ranges from the tropics to the Antarctic circle. It returns to the South Orkneys to nest in October, and in the middle of November the eggs are laid. The nests, which are generally on low lying rocks and beaches, are built of moss, lichens and feathers, and while two eggs are usually laid three are not seldom found.

The Sheathbill or "Paddy" (*Chionis alba*) is the only true land bird of the Antarctic. It lives largely on offal, and for this purpose haunts the seal and penguin rookeries in spring and summer. Nesting begins in October, and the two or three eggs are laid in December. The nests are very primitive, being composed of egg shells, bones and feathers, and are built in crannies.

Wilson's Petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*) is one of the most widely distributed of all birds ranging from Arctic to Antarctic regions. It is one of the well-known "Storm petrels." They are entirely absent from Antarctic regions during winter, and do not return to the South Orkneys to breed before November. Practically no nest is made, the eggs being laid in narrow clefts and furrows of the rocks, and often in extremely inaccessible places. Despite its wide range the only breeding places known are Victoria and Kaiser Wilhelm II. Lands (Antarctica) and Kerguelen and the South Orkneys.

The **Cape Pigeon** (*Daption capensis*) is one of the commonest petrels of the southern seas. It breeds on various subantarctic islands, but despite this the *Scotia* naturalists were the first to discover its eggs. The pure white egg is laid in a very primitive nest composed of a few fragments of rock, but generally placed in crannies of the cliffs. October is the month in which breeding starts, and the eggs appear in December.

The **Snowy Petrel** (*Pagodroma nivea*) is very abundant in the Antarctic regions, and is one of the few birds that remain at the South Orkneys during the winter months. It nests on the precipitous sea cliffs in crevices of the rocks. A single egg is laid early in December in a very primitive nest of fragments of rock and pebbles.

The **Giant Petrel** (*Ossifraga gigantea*) is generally known by sailors as the "nelly" or "stinker." The latter name is due to the habit which it shares with other petrels, of ejecting a portion of the contents of its stomach on intruders who try to molest it. Its food consists of carrion and of eggs and young penguins, and it plays great havoc among the penguin rookeries. It has a habit of gorging itself to repletion until it is almost unable to fly. The giant petrel varies much in colour, ranging from very dark brown to pure white. It builds a large nest of stones and lays its eggs early in November. The average weight of the bird is about 8½ lbs.

The **Antarctic Skua** (*Megalestris antarctica*) is one of the most aggressive of Antarctic birds, and during the breeding season of the penguins is to be seen continually hovering over the rookeries ready to swoop down on any unprotected egg or chick. They also eagerly devour offal and dead carcasses. The nests are built of moss and lichens, generally on moss covered rocks, and the two eggs are laid early in December.

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